attention to their original references dated 27.4.2001 followed by other 6 reminders which do not appear to have been received in Railways Board's office as per records available. However, it appears from their reminder letter dated 27.3.2002 that the said Association's demand is to issue passes to their top representative which can not be given being the said Association not recognized.

It has been further alleged in the above mentioned letter that the letters being received from individual SCs/STs are not considered by this office. It is stated that in order to redress the grievances of SCs and STs, complaints registers are available at all the Stations and offices. Further letters/ representations received from MPs/MLAs, National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and through proper channel regarding their recruitment/promotion/transfer and other service matters are examined keeping in view the extant instructions/rules of reservations etc. and necessary action taken However, giving reply to any unrecognized Association is not mandatory.

Crime and robberies in trains

4060. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that crime and robberies in running trains are increasing gradually;

(b) how many such cases have been reported during the last year;

(c) the number of cases which have been solved; and

(d) what steps are being taken to tighten security in trains ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS : (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) "policing" being a State subject, prevention and detection of crime on Railways including running trains is the Constitutional responsibility of the State Governments. The cases of crime on railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway Police (GRP). As per information available with this Ministry, crime including robbery has increased during the year 2001 as compared to 2000. 11798 cases were registered by the Government Railways Police during 2001.

(d) The Railway administration has taken the following steps to tighten security in trains

1. Anti-social elements are removed from Railway premises and trains.
2. Coach Attendants/TTEs keep proper watch on the passengers entering/ detraining from the coaches.
3. FIR forms are made available with the Train Guards/Stations Masters/ RPF to facilitate the travelling public to lodge their reports immediately.
4. Sharing of Special Intelligence and Crime Intelligence between RPF and GRP is done at all levels.
5. Announcement through Public Address System and CCTV at important Railway Stations to alert the travelling passengers against theft of their belongings etc.
6. RPF Assistance booths are provided at important stations to assist passengers in lodging FIRs with Government Railway Police.
7. Periodic High Level Co-ordination Meetings with Government Railway Police and Local Police are conducted to analyze the crime position with a view to taking suitable preventive measures.

Research on flowers in Tamil Nadu

4061. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state

(a) whether Governmnent are aware of the abundant growth of Jasmine and other flowers in Madurai and Ranned districts of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, whether any bio-technological research has been conducted to improve the growth of such flowers and also by proposing to set up a research centre, at a suitable location in that State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT) : (a) to (d) Yes, Madam, some Central Ministries/